DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION/Cloture (2nd Attempt)

SUBJECT: National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997 . . . S. 1745. Grams motion to close debate.

ACTION: CLOTURE MOTION REJECTED, 53-43

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 1745, the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997, will authorize a total of \$267.3 billion in budget authority for national defense programs (the President requested \$254.3 billion). In real terms, this bill will authorize \$5.6 billion less, and the President requested \$18.6 billion less, than was provided in fiscal year (FY) 1996. On June 25, 1996, Senator Grams sent to the desk, for himself and others, a motion to close debate on the bill. NOTE: The motion to invoke cloture requires a three-fifths majority (60) vote of the Senate to succeed.

Those favoring the motion to invoke cloture contended:

After 55 hours and 10 minutes of debate on S. 1745, the Senate has disposed of 111 amendments. Most of those amendments were germane and were taken by voice vote. The reason that it is taking so long to consider this bill is that several delays have occurred on matters that have nothing to do with defense. The Majority Leader has indicated that he intends to have this bill finished today. We agree that we should finish it today as well, whether cloture is invoked now or not.

Those opposing the motion to invoke cloture contended:

We are down to a very short list of amendments that we may have to consider today before we can go to final passage. We fully intend to stay and consider those amendments. Some of them would not be germane in post-cloture debate, so we will not vote to invoke cloture, but that does not mean that we intend to filibuster this bill. We want to pass it now, before we go on recess, because if we do not Senators and their staffs will have lots more time to think up new amendments to offer. The Senate could easily spend the rest of the year on this one bill if it tried, but it should not. The defense of the Nation is too important. We urge our colleagues

(See other side)

YEAS (53)			NAYS (43)			NOT VOTING (4)	
Republicans Democrats		Republicans	Republicans Democrats (0 or 0%) (43 or 96%)		Republicans (2)	Democrats (2)	
(51 or 100%) (2 or 4%)		(0 or 0%)					
Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Campbell Chafee Coats Cochran Cohen Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Domenici Faircloth Frahm Frist Gorton Gramm Grams Grams Grassley Gregg Hatch	Helms Hutchison Jeffords Kassebaum Kempthorne Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Murkowski Nickles Pressler Roth Santorum Shelby Simpson Smith Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Warner	Hollings Pell		Akaka Biden Bingaman Boxer Bradley Breaux Bryan Byrd Conrad Daschle Dodd Dorgan Exon Feingold Feinstein Ford Glenn Graham Harkin Heflin Inouye	Johnston Kennedy Kerrey Kerry Kohl Lautenberg Leahy Levin Lieberman Mikulski Moseley-Braun Moynihan Murray Nunn Pryor Reid Robb Rockefeller Sarbanes Simon Wellstone Wyden	EXPLANAT 1—Official 1 2—Necessar 3—Illness 4—Other SYMBOLS: AY—Annou AN—Annou PY—Paired PN—Paired	ily Absent anced Yea anced Nay Yea

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to vote against cloture, but then to join us in quickly disposing of remaining amendments and passing this bill.